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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/56/L.8 and Add.1)*]

56/4. Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] which emphasized the necessity of safeguarding nature for the sake of future generations and working for the protection of our common environment,

Considering that damage to the environment in times of armed conflict impairs ecosystems and natural resources long beyond the period of conflict, and often extends beyond the limits of national territories and the present generation,

Recalling Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations, which states that all Member States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of any State in their international relations,

1. *Declares* 6 November each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict;

2. *Invites* Member States, entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations to observe 6 November each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the implementation of the present resolution and to promote it in the international community.

37th plenary meeting
5 November 2001

[1] See resolution 55/2.